



NEWS

LIVINGSTON PARISH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

29261 Frost Road | Livingston, LA 70754 | 225.686.4400 | www.livingstonparishla.gov

Livingston Parish is going green – and saving green

LIVINGSTON – Livingston Parish government is taking the lead in making communities more energy efficient.

The parish has secured nearly \$800,000 in federal grants to set a new standard for conservation and help its cities and towns achieve the same goal.

Using funding from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, Livingston is hiring a technical consultant and organizing a volunteer Energy Efficiency & Conservation Committee to recommend best practices for becoming more energy efficient. The money also will be spent to retrofit public buildings and vehicles with the latest technology to reduce consumption – starting with the parish's biggest energy user, the 68-year-old Livingston Parish Courthouse.

Overall, Livingston Parish intends to reduce its energy consumption by 15%, saving taxpayers thousands of dollars annually.

"We want to take the lead in creating a community focused on energy efficiency, conservation and sustainable development," says Livingston Parish President Mike Grimmer. "We hope to set a responsible, regional example of what can be done to preserve resources and save money."

The project will begin in early 2010 with an audit of energy usage in parish-owned buildings to identify priorities. The parish will then phase in energy-saving measures, as well as train its staff in better conservation practices.

Livingston will also enforce new standard operating and maintenance procedures for its workforce to continue preserving energy resources and dollars. This includes new practices for operating, lighting, cooling and heating public buildings.

Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, Livingston will provide funding for local municipalities and other public entities to review their own energy usage and implement their own conservation strategies, such as retrofitting buildings and replacing traffic signals and street lighting with more efficient technologies.

The five-member Energy Efficiency & Conservation Committee, which consists of community and business leaders, will monitor the conservation efforts.

– e n d –